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PROFESSOR ANDREWS' NEW THEORY.

Professor E. Benjamin Andrews, chancellor of the university of Nebraska, has got his foot into it. The professor used to be an exponent of the free silver theory, but of late he has passed up political economy for the greater question as to what is to become of us. He makes what will be generally pronounced a decidedly unique showing.

In 1798 Thomas Robert Malthus published a work entitled, "An Essay on the Principles of Population as It Affects the Future Improvement of Society." The work was widely read and created a profound impression. In 1826 it was revised and made more comprehensive. Professor Malthus argued that population, if unchecked, would increase in geometrical ratio, whereas food could be made to increase only in arithmetical ratio. This condition, he contended, was bound to cause great suffering among the poor, and he reached the conclusion that population must be checked—"the Malthusian theory." Later came Darwin, with his "survival of the fittest" proposition.

The Nebraska professor has consolidated the Malthusian and Darwin theories and applied them to business. He expresses preference for the practice, in business, of "crushing weaker rivals," which he declares to be the "inevitable consequence of the evolution of business," and, as some of the modern physicians have been doing, argues that not only should the weaklings be killed off, but that the day is coming when they will be "mercifully disposed of by skilled physicians." This sort of thing is called "euthanasia," or the "happy dispatch."

Thus far euthanasia has not become very popular here in the United States, although it is practiced among the cannibals of the South Sea islands, who evince much patriotic pride in cutting the throats the superannuated or in breaking their backs by well directed blows. In Portland and other large cities the trolley cars run over old men and women, but this circumstance is attributed to accident, and not to any growing demand for the employment of euthanasia.

The Nebraska professor, perhaps in the prime of life and therefore immune from the sudden attacks of an enthusiast practicing euthanasia, has utterly ignored the recognized principle of "live and let live." It is to be presumed the theoretical professor would feel very much put out if following his line of reasoning, some other institution of learning should proceed to annihilate the university of Nebraska upon that institution showing weakness. What a truly glorious situation of affairs would result if when some deserving business man becomes a trifle wobbly because of the failure of his debtors to pay their bills, a delegation of rival business men would enter his establishment and proceed to knock off his commercial block!

Professor Andrews lives in the wrong state; he should remove to Missouri.

The progress in the design of new forms of building materials made from concrete, armored and unarmored, is significant as showing the tendency of modern engineering thought and the increasing reliance that is coming to be placed upon this material, says the Railway Age. A somewhat radical form of flooring now comes from Switzerland and is the invention of an architect named Siegwart, of Lucern. This consists of hollowed tubes of armored concrete composed of Portland cement mixed with coarse sand in the proportions of 1 to 4. The breadth is uniform almost exactly 10 inches, but the depth varies from 3 1/2 to 8 1/3 inches, with lengths up to 24 feet, although there seems no reason why they should not be much longer if it is desired. Within the concrete matrix are contained usually six steel rods, and to prevent them from pulling through the concrete the ends are entangled. The beams are hollow with comparatively thin walls, and the inner surface of the upper side is roughly arched, while the external surfaces are scored in order to present a rough surface for plaster or mortar. The tests of the beams are

extremely high, and their advantage over ordinary forms of construction seems evident, since the setting of the concrete takes place at the factory, and the moment that the beams are placed side by side upon their ultimate support the floor is complete, not subject to damage, and may be used immediately. There is much in this plan to recommend it to the attention of engineers.

Silver coins are getting scarce, according to the annual report of the director of the mint. Of the silver bullion which the treasury bought under authority of the so-called Sherman act of 1890, about 33,218,712 ounces remained at the beginning of the last fiscal year, and at the beginning of the current fiscal year 17,502,938 ounces. During the present treasury year this bullion will have been exhausted, and there will be no provision for further coinage of subsidiary pieces unless congress takes the matter up. The silver dollar does not attain a wide circulation. Its place in the current of exchange is filled by the silver certificate. But more of the coin is out at the present time than ever before. The coinage of these dollars which upset the country's equanimity in 1893 has been going on steadily since that time. From about \$400,000,000 this element in the currency has increased to \$550,000,000, and, when the uncoined bullion is utilized, will amount to much more. The subsidiary coin, which amounted to \$77,000,000 10 years ago, is now about \$105,000,000. The amount in actual circulation seems to be steadily pressing on the supply. The Hill "administrative currency bill" provides for the use of the silver dollars in supplying the future need of subsidiary pieces.

A Portland lady recently attended a meeting of the Salem Woman's Club. Then she went back to Portland and made the announcement that Salem women have large feet. Indeed, she spent most of her time while in the capitol city looking for dainty feet among the women, and it has since been said that the shoe stores, thoroughly alive to the needs of their customers, do not keep smaller shoes than No. 3. The Salem Journal bitterly complains because of this attack. It contends that Salem ladies are bitterly opposed to the general feminine desire to cramp the feet, and that, if Salem shoes are larger than Portland shoes, it is because they are not so full of feet. It is willing to back Salem feet against any other feet in the world, and defies the Portland woman to prove the slanderous statement. We trust the matter will be amicably settled at an early date, and that there may be complete vindication of Salem feet.

The greatest clock in the world, the dial of which will be 120 feet in diameter, is being built in Milwaukee for use at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition. The minute hand will be 60 feet long, and the dial is to be a brilliant bed of flowers on a hill side with numerals 15 feet long, composed of brightly colored foliage plants, to mark the hours. At night the time-piece will be illuminated with 2,000 incandescent lights.

The Chicago post office now in course of erection will be the second largest building in the United States. It will contain more structural iron than any other building in the United States, and probably more granite than any other building in the United States. The time for recompletion is uncertain and its cost a problem for guess work.

The Post-Intelligencer is out with the declaration that Seattle's reputation is her principal asset. From which it is to be inferred either that the sound city is about to file a petition in bankruptcy, or else that her bookkeeper has made the clerical error of placing the item on the wrong side of the ledger.

A Presbyterian minister down in Wilmington, Del., recently preached a sermon that is alleged to have been the cause of a lynching the following night. He was tried before the state presbytery, found guilty and sentenced to be more careful in the future. He should have been spanked on the wrist.

The sudden passing of William Collins Whitney removes one of our most noted public men. Mr. Whitney was always prominent politically, but for building up our navy he will be specially remembered by the American people. His was a useful life.

President Francis, of the St. Louis exposition, has only a fair chance of receiving the democratic nomination for president. For this reason, perhaps, he pronounces his boom a joke.

Isn't it just a trifle remarkable that B. J. Pye should be president of the Astoria Commercial Club and H. M. Cake president of the Portland Commercial Club?

The Baker City Herald expresses the opinion that it is a rattling good newspaper. The view is generally shared by those who read it—or should be.

THEY WANT HIGHER PAY

Six Hundred Freight Handlers of East River Piers Walk Out on Strike.

GRIEVANCE IS LOST TIME

Demand 25 Cents Daily Instead of 20 Cents an Hour For Actual Time Employed—Determined to Win.

New York, Feb. 3.—Six hundred freight handlers employed by the New

York, New Haven & Hartford railroad have gone on strike for higher wages. They are employed at the piers on the East river.

The grievance of the men arises chiefly from the fact that they had to wait when the boats were delayed in bringing cars to be unloaded. They have been receiving 20 cents an hour only for the actual time employed, but now demand 25 cents for the entire day.

Novelist Leaves Fortune. New York, Feb. 3.—The will of the late Hugh Stowell Scott, better known as Henry Seaton Merriman, the novelist, shows that he left an estate of \$250,000, says a Times dispatch from London. The document has just been filed for probate.

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7:00 p.m.	pot for Astoria and	9:40 p.m.
	Way Points	

ASTORIA

7:45 a.m.	For Portland and	11:20 a.m.
6:10 p.m.	Way Points	10:30 p.m.

SEASIDE DIVISION

8:15 a.m.	Astoria for War-	7:40 a.m.
11:35 a.m.	ton, Flavel Port	4:00 p.m.
5:50 p.m.	Stevens, Hammond	10:45 a.m.
	and Seaside	

6:15 a.m.	Seaside for War-	12:50 p.m.
9:20 a.m.	renton, Flavel,	7:20 p.m.
2:30 p.m.	Hammond, Fort	9:35 a.m.
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